

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 184410
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11 TRSE-00 DODE-00
H-01 NSC-05 OMB-01 /079 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:MCRAMERUS:PM

APPROVED BY EUR:RDVINE

EUR/WE:RPAGANELLI

EUR/RPM:PSWIERS

L/EUR:JCROOK

-----001413 210453Z /11

R 202338Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184410

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PMIL, MT

SUBJECT: MALTESE NEUTRALITY GUARANTEE

REF: ROME 12684; STATE 171863

1. IN ANY FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH ITALIAN OFFICIALS RE
MALTA, EMBASSY SHOULD REITERATE US VIEW THAT EXTENDING THE
MALTESE NEUTRALITY GUARANTEE EXCLUSION TO ALL NATO AND
WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES WOULD BE TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF OUR
ALLIES. MINTOFF, TOO, FAVORS EXCLUDING ONLY THE SUPER-
POWERS. US VIEWS PRIMARY BENEFIT OF THE DECLARATION TO BE
AS A POLITICAL DETERRENT TO MINTOFF'S GRANTING SOVIET
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 184410

ACCESS TO MALTESE FACILITIES.

2. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS PROHIBIT A
DECLARATION EXCLUDING ONLY THE US AND USSR FROM MALTESE
FACILITIES. THE FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED FOR FURTHER DISCUS-
SIONS WITH MANNO IN VIEW OF HIS CONCERN WITH THE LEGAL AS-
PECTS OF EXCLUDING ONLY THE US AND USSR.

--

3. THE LEGAL DOCTRINES OF NEUTRALITY INVOLVE A PRECISE SET OF RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES IN TIME OF WAR. THESE LEGAL PRINCIPLES ARE DISTINCT FROM THE POLITICAL CONCEPTS OF NEUTRALISM AND NONALIGNMENT. THESE POLITICAL CONCEPTS IMPLY

AVERSION TO PARTICIPATION IN OR SUPPORT FOR FOREIGN MILITARY ALLIANCES IN PEACETIME, BUT THIS IS A MATTER OF POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY AND NOT OF LAW. THE GOVERNMENT OF MALTA HAS ADOPTED POLICIES OF NEUTRALISM AND NONALIGNMENT, BUT NO LEGAL PRINCIPLES COMPEL MALTA TO EXCLUDE THE FORCES OF FOREIGN MILITARY ALLIANCES IN PEACETIME.

4. IN LIGHT OF THE SPECIAL NATURE OF US AND SOVIET NAVAL PRESENCE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, WE WOULD NOT FIND IT INAPPROPRIATE, LEGALLY OR OTHERWISE, FOR THE US AND THE USSR TO BE SINGLED OUT FOR TREATMENT DIFFERENT FROM THAT GIVEN OUR ALLIES. WE STRONGLY PREFER THAT THE EXCLUSION BE LIMITED TO US AND SOVIET NAVAL FORCES IN ORDER THAT OUR ALLIES MAY CONTINUE TO HAVE SOME ACCESS TO MALTESE FACILITIES.

VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEUTRALISM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE184410
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MCRAMERUS:PM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780299-0684
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780736/aaaabekv.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 664fa66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 ROME 12684, 78 STATE 171863
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1934500
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MALTESE NEUTRALITY GUARANTEE
TAGS: MILI, MT
To: ROME
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/664fa66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014